

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

The subject matter of claim 4 has been incorporated into claim 1. Accordingly, claim 4 has been canceled, and the dependency of claim 5 has been changed.

Claims 15-22 have also been canceled.

Claims 1-3 and 5-14 are currently pending.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 2-11 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for this indication and, in accordance with this indication, Applicant has amended claim 1 by incorporating the subject matter of claim 4 into it. In view of this amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are directed to allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

The Office Action also provisionally rejected the pending claims under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting over the '468, '166 and '121 applications. In view of the following comments, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

Given that the § 102 rejection has been obviated (as explained above), the sole remaining rejections in this case are the double patenting rejections. The MPEP states that such provisional double patenting rejections should be withdrawn if they are the only issues remaining in the case. See, MPEP 822.01.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the double patenting rejections.

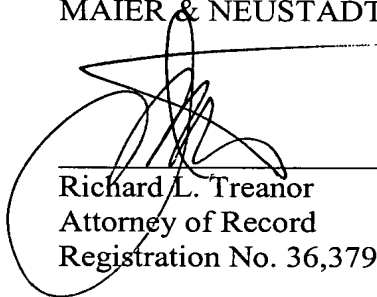
Application No. 10/506,614

Response to Office Action dated January 25, 2007

Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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